

# ABBASS SHARIF, PH.D.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Data Sciences and Operations Department  
USC Marshall School of Business  
University of Southern California  
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Github: <https://github.com/abbassalsharif>

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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<b>STATISTICAL COMPUTING</b>	R, SAS, Python, C, SQL, Assembly, HTML
<b>STATISTICAL VISUALIZATION</b>	ggplot2, ggmap, ggvis, shiny, and tableau
<b>DATA CLEANING</b>	dplyr, lubridate, stringr, and rvest
<b>ANALYTICS:</b>	regression (linear, RF, LASSO, ect.), classification (logistic, DT, LDA, ect.), clustering (hierarchical and K-means), resampling methods (cross validation and bootstrapping), and time series analysis

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

2015 – Present

*Academic Director*, Masters of Science in Business Analytics Program

- Increased the program's size from 32 students to 100 students in 2 years
- Elevated the Program's [ranking to #1](#) among all graduate Business Analytics programs in the USA
- Updated the curriculum to bridge the gap between industry practice and academia
- Created and administered networking trips for students to visit the analytics departments at companies in the Bay Area (Facebook, Google, and Cisco), the Greater Los Angeles Area (Paramount Pictures, Legendary, Fullscreen, and Sony Pictures), and Seattle (Amazon, T-Mobile, REI, and Microsoft)
- Ran and Supervised 8 different analytics projects for students (125 students) with different departments in the City of Los Angeles, Kaiser Permanente, and Telesign
- Established 150+ industry connections for the program
- Sustained 100% students' employment and internship rate

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

2013 – Present

*Assistant Professor*, Data Sciences and Operations Department

- Taught 11 different classes (6 newly created) that ranges from statistical computing and data visualization in R, to applied machine learning, statistics for every day life, and data analysis for decision making
- Created and taught an online analytics class for USC's online MBA program
- Supervised 80+ analytics students' internships
- Sustained a 4.5+/5 teaching evaluations
- Won 3 awards: Golden Apple for Excellence in Teaching (2014), Evan C. Thompson Award for Teaching and Learning Innovation (2017), and the Dean's Award for Community (2017)

### UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

2007 – 2013

*Graduate Researcher*, Mathematics and Statistics Department

- Created new visualization techniques for functional actigraphy data
- Taught 3 statistics classes

## EDUCATION

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<b>PHD, STATISTICS</b>	<b>2012</b>
Utah State University	
<b>MS, INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>2012</b>
Utah State University	
<b>MS, COMPUTER SCIENCE</b>	<b>2006</b>
Lebanese American University	
<b>BS, COMPUTER SCIENCE (MATHEMATICS MINOR)</b>	<b>2004</b>
Lebanese American University	

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Sharif, A. and Symanzik, J. (2017). Visual Data Mining Techniques for Functional Actigraphy Data, Statistics in Medicine (in progress).
- Sharif, A., Symanzik, J., and Shannon, W. D. (2012). An Object-oriented Approach in R for the Visualization of Functional Actigraphy Data, Computing Science and Statistics, 41.
- Ding, J., Symanzik, J., Sharif, A., and Shannon, W. D. (2011). Functional Representation of Actigraphy Data, Chance, 24(3):3036.
- Kim, Y., Xu, B., and Sharif (2008), A. Pedagogical Agents as Social Models in an Online Learning Environment MathGirls, International Transactions on Systems Science and Applications, 4(2), 99-106.
- Sharif, A. and Haraty, R. A (2008). The Relationship between Using of an Intelligent Tutoring System and Class Achievement in a Basic Mathematics Course, iJET, 3, 20-23.

### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Xiaotian, D., Symanzik, J., Sharif, A., and Fu, G. (2017). Quantitative Genetic and Environmental Mapping and Visual Exploration for Leaf Shape Variation. In Biological Shape Analysis: Proceedings of the 4th International Symposium, pp. 95-112.
- Sharif, A. and Symanzik, J. (2012). Graphical Representation of Clustered Functional Actigraphy Data, Joint Statistical Meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Sharif, A., Symanzik, J., and Shannon, W. D. (2010). An Object-oriented Approach in R for the Visualization of Functional Actigraphy Data, Computing Science and Statistics, Seattle, WA.
- Caswell, T. and Sharif, A. (2007). eduCommons in any Language. Open Education Conference 2007: Localizing and Learning, Logan, UT.
- Sharif, A. and Habre, S. (2006). Students Dependence on Calculators in a Freshman Level Basic Mathematics Course. International conference on the teaching of Mathematics at the undergraduate level, Istanbul, Turkey.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>EVAN THOMPSON TEACHING AND LEARNING INNOVATION</b>	<b>2017</b>
University of Southern California	
<b>DEAN'S AWARD FOR COMMUNITY</b>	<b>2017</b>
University of Southern California	
<b>CERTIFICATE, BUSINESS ESSENTIALS FOR MANAGERS</b>	<b>2017</b>
University of Southern California	
<b>GOLDEN APPLE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING</b>	<b>2015</b>
University of Southern California	
<b>DISSERTATION RESEARCH AWARD</b>	<b>2013</b>
American Statistical Association	
<b>CITATION OF HONOR</b>	<b>2013</b>
Utah Legislature	
<b>ROBINS AWARDS - FINALIST - MAN OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>2011</b>
Utah State University	
<b>GRADUATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>2008</b>
Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Utah State University	